

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND INTENT TO ISSUE A
WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No. WI-0065676-01-0

Permittee: Oak Ridge Dairy Farm LLC, 24425 Saint Peters Road, Darlington, WI 53530

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Oak Ridge Dairy Farm LLC, 24783 Saint Peters Road, Darlington, WI

Receiving Water and Location: Surface water and groundwater within the Galena River and the Little Platte River Watersheds, in the Grant –Platte River Drainage Basin, and the Lower and Middle Pecatonica Watersheds, in the Sugar - Pecatonica River Drainage Basin

Brief Facility Description: Oak Ridge Dairy Farm LLC is a proposed Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO). Oak Ridge Dairy Farm LLC is owned by Oak Ridge Dairy Farm LLC and operated by Jim DiGangi. Oak Ridge Dairy is planning to start construction of a new Holstein dairy operation in the spring of 2016. The proposed site currently has **no** animal units and is proposing to expand to 5,775 animal units by the fall of 2016. When completed, the farm plans to have 4,025 Milking and Dry cows, 125 Heifers, and 10 Calves, for 5,775 animal units. Younger heifers will be raised by a custom heifer raiser(s) at remote sites. The number of animal units is expected to stay about the same for the next five years. Since the size of the operation will exceed 1,000 animal units as defined in Ch. NR 243, Wis. Adm. Code, an application has been submitted for issuance of their Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) Permit. The proposed permit term is approximately five years.

Oak Ridge Dairy is planning to build a large 20-row freestall barn, sand separator, feed storage area, and two manure storage basins. The proposed manure storage basins will have capacity for about 45 million gallons of manure and wastewater. The basins will provide over 278 days of storage for the manure and wastewater produced by the milking and cows, heifers, calves and includes runoff water collected from the proposed feed storage area. The total liquid manure and wastewater production for the farm is estimated to be about 50,484,239 gallons per year. Oak Ridge Dairy Farm LLC has a total of 5,260 acres available for land application of manure and process wastewater. All of the 5,260 acres are currently rented or leased.

Oak Ridge Dairy will be built just west and adjacent to the Darlington Ridge Farms location. Darlington Ridge Dairy is a separate operation that is currently a permitted CAFO. The LLCs for the operations share similar members, but they are not identical. The operations have requested separate permits, and the Department agreed based on the fact that the LLCs are different and the operations will be completely separate.

The WPDES permit issuance is an integrated analysis action under s. NR 150.20, Wis. Adm. Code, and does not require additional environmental analysis.

The Department has tentatively decided that the above specified WPDES permit should be issued.

Permit Drafter: Mark Cain, DNR, SCR Headquarters, 3911 Fish Hatchery Rd, Fitchburg, WI 53711, (608) 275-3252, mark.cain@wisconsin.gov

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, the terms of the nutrient management plan, or the application, or to request a public informational hearing may write to the Department of Natural Resources at the permit drafter's address. All comments or suggestions received no later than 30 days after the publication date of this public notice will be considered along with other information on file in making a final decision regarding the permit. Anyone providing comments in response to this public notice will receive a notification of the Department's final decision when the permit is issued. Where designated as a reviewable surface water discharge permit, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is allowed up to 90 days to submit comments or objections regarding this permit determination. If no comments are received on the proposed permit from anyone, including U.S. EPA, the permit will be issued as proposed.

The Department may schedule a public informational hearing if within 30 days of the public date of this notice, a request for a hearing is filed by any person. The Department shall schedule a public informational hearing if a petition requesting a hearing is received from USEPA or from 5 or more persons or if the Department determines there is significant public interest. Requests for a public informational hearing shall state the following: the name and address of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the interest in the proposed permit of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the reasons for the request; and the issues proposed to be considered at the hearing.

Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit and fact sheet (if required), the operation's nutrient management plan and application may be inspected and copied at the permit drafter's office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter for directions to their office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling the permit

drafter at (608) 275-3252 or by writing to the Department. Reasonable costs (usually 20 cents per page) will be charged for copies of information in the file other than the public notice and fact sheet. Permit information is also available on the internet at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PublicNotices.html>. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be made to qualified individuals upon request.

PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Republican Journal, 316 Main St., Darlington, WI 53530
Date Notice Issued: February 18, 2016